

This Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into between Amada Franchise, Inc. ("Amada") and Jared Glenn Turner, as Executive Chairman of Amada ("Turner"), on the one hand, and the Commissioner of Business Oversight ("Commissioner"), on the other hand. Unless otherwise indicated, Amada, Turner and the Commissioner may be collectively referred to herein as the "Parties". This Agreement is made with respect to the following facts:

I.

## **RECITALS**

- A. Amada is a Wyoming Corporation formed on January 27, 2012 and is authorized to conduct business in California. Amada's principal business address is 901 Calle Amanecer, Suite 350, San Clemente, California, 92673. Amada formerly conducted business from 2463 El Toro Rd., Suite 205, Laguna Woods, California 92637. Amada does business under the name "Amada Senior Care". According to documents filed with the Commissioner, the Amada Senior Care business "provides and markets non-medical homemaker, companionship, personal care services, personal technology services, and equipment to the elderly and others who need assistance in daily living".
- B. Turner was Amada's Chief Operating Officer from January 2012 March 2014, and has been Amada's Executive Chairman from April 2014 to the present. Turner has been on Amada's Board of Directors since January 2012.
- C. The Commissioner is the head of the Department of Business Oversight ("Department") and is responsible for administering and enforcing the California Franchise Investment Law ("FIL") (Corp. Code § 31000, et seq.), and registering the offer and sale of franchises in California. To register a franchise, a franchisor must file a Uniform Franchise Disclosure Document ("Franchise Disclosure Document") with the Department for review and approval, in accordance with sections 31111 and 31114. The FIL requires franchisors to disclose certain material information which is intended to provide prospective franchisees with facts upon which to make an informed decision to purchase a franchise, as stated in section 31001.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All further statutory references are to the Corporations Code unless otherwise indicated.

- D. On June 21, 2016 the Commissioner issued a Stop Order Denying Effectiveness of Franchise Renewal Registration Application and Statement In Support of Stop Order Denying Effectiveness of Franchise Renewal Registration Application filed by Amada on April 20, 2015, and Citations Including: (1) Desist and Refrain Order; (2) Assessment of Administrative Penalties; and (3) Claim for Ancillary Relief and Costs (collectively, "Stop Order, Citations, and Desist and Refrain Order"), captioned *In the Matter of The Commissioner of Business Oversight v. Amada Franchise, Inc. (a Wyoming Corporation) and Jared Glenn Turner (an individual)*, FIL Org Id.: 92090, before the Department of Business Oversight (the "Action"). A true and correct copy of the Stop Order and Statement of Facts in Support of Stop Order are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as **Exhibit 1**, and a true and correct copy of the Citation and Desist and Refrain Order is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as **Exhibit 2**.
- E. The Stop Order, Citations, and Desist and Refrain Order allege that Amada and Turner: (1) violated FIL section 31200 by willfully making untrue statements of material fact in applications filed with the Commissioner or omitting to state material facts which were required to be stated in the applications filed with the Commissioner; and (2) violated FIL section 31123 by failing to promptly amend Amada's franchise registration to disclose material facts to the Commissioner. The Stop Order denies effectiveness of Amada's franchise renewal application filed on April 20, 2015, based on its alleged failure to comply with FIL sections 31123 and 31200.
- F. Amada and Turner maintain that they relied on the advice of their franchise disclosure counsel, who was aware of certain facts relevant to the Commissioner's allegations in the Action. The purpose of this Agreement is to settle and resolve the Action, for judicial economy and expediency, and to avoid the expense of a hearing, and possible further court proceedings.
- G. Now, therefore, in consideration of the terms and conditions contained herein, the Parties agree as follows:

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II.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. **Purpose**. The purpose of this Agreement is to settle and resolve the matters between the Parties hereto, for judicial economy and expediency, and to avoid the expense of a hearing, and possible further court proceedings.
- 2. Administrative Penalties. Amada and Turner agree to pay aggregate penalties in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to the Commissioner ("Penalties"). Such Penalties shall be paid by Amada and/or Turner and received by the Commissioner within ten (10) days of the mutual execution and delivery of this Agreement. The check shall be made payable to "The Department of Business Oversight," and shall be sent to the following address:

Danielle A. Stoumbos, Esq. **Senior Counsel Department of Business Oversight** 320 W. 4th Street, Suite 750 Los Angeles, CA 90013

In the event the payment due date falls on a weekend or holiday, the payment shall be due the next business day. Amada and Turner acknowledge that failure to timely pay the Penalties in this Agreement shall be a breach of this Agreement and shall be cause for the Commissioner to immediately revoke any licenses held by, and/or deny any pending application(s) of Amada, its successors and assigns, by whatever names they might be known or any other franchisor listing Turner in its franchise application. Amada and Turner hereby waive any notice and hearing rights to contest such revocations and/or denial(s) which may be afforded under the FIL, the California Administrative Procedure Act, the California Code of Civil Procedure, or any other provision of law in connection therewith.

Amada's Waiver of Hearing Rights. Amada acknowledges its right to a hearing 3. under the FIL in connection with the Stop Order, Citations, and Desist and Refrain Order. By entering into this Agreement, Amada hereby agrees to waive its right to a hearing, and to any reconsideration, appeal, or other right to review the Stop Order, Citations, and Desist and Refrain Order, which may be afforded pursuant to the FIL, the California Administrative Procedure Act,

the Code of Civil Procedure, or any other provision of law, and understands that by waiving its hearing right, the Stop Order and Desist and Refrain Order become final.

- 4. **Jared Glenn Turner's Waiver of Hearing Rights**. Turner acknowledges his right to a hearing under the FIL in connection with the Desist and Refrain Order. By entering into this Agreement, Turner hereby agrees to waive his right to a hearing, and to any reconsideration, appeal, or other right to review Desist and Refrain Order, which may be afforded pursuant to the FIL, the California Administrative Procedure Act, the Code of Civil Procedure, or any other provision of law, and understands that by waiving his hearing right, the Desist and Refrain Order becomes final.
- 5. <u>Desist and Refrain Order</u>. Amada and Turner stipulate to undertake all appropriate steps to assure full compliance with California law in the conduct of Amada's business. Amada and Turner shall desist and refrain from: (1) willfully making untrue statements of material fact in applications filed with the Commissioner or omitting to state material facts which were required to be stated in the applications filed with the Commissioner; and (2) failing to promptly amend Amada's franchise registration to disclose material facts to the Commissioner.
- 6. Remedial Education. The following class of persons is required to attend remedial California franchise law compliance education: (1) all persons who assist in preparing Amada franchise materials including but not limited to registrations, renewals, or amendments; (2) any person selling an Amada franchise; and (3) the person who certifies the accuracy of Amada's Franchise Disclosure Document filed with the Commissioner. Each of these persons shall attend eight (8) hours of remedial education each year, for two (2) years, in the form of franchise law training courses offered by a franchise law specialist certified with the State Bar of California or courses offered by the International Franchise Association. Amada shall file proof of compliance, in the form of a sworn statement of each person required to take remedial education, under penalty of perjury, concurrent with the filing of Amada's application for registration or renewal. Amada agrees that the Commissioner may deny Amada's application if proof of compliance is not submitted therewith.

7. Initial Franchise Registration Application. Within sixty (60) days of execution of this Agreement, Amada will file an Initial Franchise Registration Application pursuant to section 31111, and shall be in full compliance with the FIL (the "New Application"). Amada will disclose this Agreement, the Commissioner's Stop Order, Citations, and Desist and Refrain Order in the New Application. The Commissioner agrees that any franchise application filed in the future by Amada, or by any other franchisor which discloses Turner or any other person currently disclosed in Item 2 of Amada's Franchise Disclosure Document, shall not be denied registration solely based on the allegations set forth in the Stop Order, or Citations and Desist and Refrain Order, or any fact, circumstance, act or omission of which the Commissioner had notice in the course of its investigation of the Action.

## 8. **Notice of Violation**.

Approval. Amada shall comply with section 31303 of the FIL and Title 10 of California Code of Regulations, Rule 310.303 within sixty (60) days of execution of this Agreement by filing an application for approval as to form of a written notice of violation with a Six Thousand Dollar (\$6,000.00) refund to each purchaser of an Amada franchise from Amada from July 19, 2012 through April 22, 2013 and September 1, 2013 through April 20, 2015 (the "Franchise Class"). Amada will submit the Initial Franchise Registration Application and Notice of Violation for approval to the Commissioner, care of:

Shohreh Aram, Esq.
Senior Counsel
Department of Business Oversight
320 West Fourth Street, Suite 750
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Upon approval from the Commissioner, Amada will deliver the approved Notice of Violation, Initial Franchise Registration, and a Six Thousand Dollar (\$6,000.00) refund to each franchisee in the Franchise Class in accordance with this Agreement and the FIL.

b) <u>Preservation of Franchisees Ability to Maintain a Private Action</u>. Nothing in this Agreement prohibits franchisees in the Franchise Class from alleging a private action in accordance with FIL section 31303, or any other provision of law.

- c) Offer To Extend Franchise Agreement Term For Two (2) Years. Amada will offer to extend the term of the franchise agreement of each franchisee in the Franchise Class for two (2) additional years without charge or condition.
- d) Report to Commissioner. Amada will provide the Commissioner with proof of mailing and proof of payment of the refund (the "Report"), within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the Commissioner's Order Approving Amada's Notice of Violation. Amada shall submit the Report to Danielle A. Stoumbos, Senior Counsel, 320 West 4th Street, Suite 750, Los Angeles, CA 90013.
- 9. <u>In House Compliance Officer and Compliance Manual</u>. Amada will appoint an inhouse compliance officer and develop a franchise law compliance manual for the company.
- 10. <u>California Franchise Counsel</u>. Amada will engage California-based franchise counsel to advise and represent it with regard to its Franchise Disclosure Document, filings with the Commissioner, and California franchise laws.
- 11. Immediate Suspension of Registration for Failure to Comply With Agreement. Amada and Turner agree that if either party fails to comply with the terms of this Agreement, the Commissioner shall provide Amada and Turner with notice of the failure to comply by sending a certified letter to 901 Calle Amanecer, Suite 350, San Clemente, California, 92673. If Amada and Turner do not cure within 10 business days of the date of the Commissioner's notice, the Commissioner shall immediately suspend any franchise registrations held by, and/or deny any pending franchise application(s) of Amada, its successors and assigns, or any franchise applications of companies in which Turner is an officer, director, control person, or shareholder, until the terms are met. Amada and Turner hereby waive any notice and hearing rights to contest the immediate suspension that may be afforded under the California Corporations Code, the California Administrative Procedure Act, the California Code of Civil Procedure, or any other legal provision.
- 12. <u>Future Actions by the Commissioner</u>. The Commissioner reserves the right to bring any future action(s) against Amada and Turner or any of Amada's partners, owners, officers, directors, shareholders, employees, or successors, for any prior violations, as to which the Commissioner presently lacks knowledge, or any future violations of the FIL. This Agreement

shall not serve to exculpate Turner or Amada, or any of its partners, owners, officers, directors, shareholders, employees, or successors, from liability for such. However, this Agreement resolves and discharges Amada and Turner of any further liability, fine or discipline, or other punitive sanction or remedy, that could have been brought by the Commissioner arising out of or relating to the allegations made in the Stop Order, Citations, and Desist and Refrain Order, or any fact, circumstance, act or omission which the Commissioner, its counsel, investigators or agents know, or had notice of, in the course of the Action or any investigation relating to the Action.

- 13. <u>Effective Date</u>. This Agreement shall become effective upon the receipt by each of the Parties of an electronic copy of this Agreement signed by all Parties.
- Agreement Coverage. The Parties hereby acknowledge and agree that this

  Agreement is intended to constitute a full, final, and complete resolution of the Action. The

  Parties further acknowledge and agree that nothing contained in this Agreement shall operate to limit the Commissioner's ability to assist any other agency, county, or state or federal entity, with any prosecution, administrative, civil or criminal, brought by any such agency against Amada or Turner based upon any of the conduct alleged in the Action.
- 15. <u>Independent Legal Advice</u>. Each of the Parties represents, warrants, and agrees that it has received or been advised to seek independent legal advice with respect to the advisability of executing this Agreement.
- No Other Representation. Each of the Parties represents, warrants, and agrees that in executing this Agreement it has relied solely on the statements set forth herein and the advice of its own counsel. Each of the Parties further represents, warrants, and agrees that in executing this Agreement it has placed no reliance on any statement, representation, or promise of any other party, or any other person or entity not expressly set forth herein, or upon the failure of any party or any other person or entity to make any statement, representation or disclosure of anything whatsoever. The Parties have included this clause: (1) to preclude any claim that any party was in any way fraudulently induced to execute this Agreement; and (2) to preclude the introduction of parol evidence to vary, interpret, supplement, or contradict the terms of this Agreement.

- 17. <u>Modifications and Qualified Integration</u>. No amendment, change or modification of this Agreement shall be valid or binding to any extent unless it is in writing and signed by all of the Parties.
- 18. **Full Integration**. This Agreement is the final written expression and the complete and exclusive statement of all of the agreements, conditions, promises, representations, and covenants between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous agreements, negotiations, representations, understandings, and discussions between and among the Parties, their respective representatives, and any other person or entity, with respect to the subject matter covered hereby.
- 19. No Presumption From Drafting. In that the Parties have had the opportunity to draft, review and edit the language of this Agreement, no presumption for or against any party arising out of drafting all or any part of this Agreement will be applied in any action relating to, connected to, or involving this Agreement. Accordingly, the Parties waive the benefit of Civil Code section 1654 and any successor or amended statute, providing that in cases of uncertainty, language of a contract should be interpreted most strongly against the party who caused the uncertainty to exist.
- 20. <u>Signatures</u>. A fax signature or e-mail scanned signature of this Agreement shall be as effective as an original ink signature.
- 21. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counter-parts by the Parties, and when each party has signed and delivered at least one such counterpart to the other party, each counterpart shall be deemed an original and taken together shall constitute one and the same Agreement.
- 22. <u>Headings and Governing Law</u>. The headings to the paragraphs of this Agreement are inserted for convenience only and will not be deemed a part hereof or affect the construction or interpretation of the provisions hereof. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of California.
- 23. **Authority For Settlement**. Each party warrants and represents that such party is fully entitled and duly authorized to enter into and deliver this Agreement. In particular, and

without limiting the generality of the foregoing, each party warrants and represents that it is fully entitled to enter into the covenants, and undertake the obligations set forth herein.

- 24. <u>Public Record</u>. Amada and Turner hereby acknowledge that this Agreement, and the Stop Order, Citations, and Desist and Refrain Order are and will be a matter of public record.
- 25. <u>Voluntary Agreement</u>. The Parties each represent and acknowledge that he, she or it is executing this Agreement completely voluntarily and without any duress or undue influence of any kind from any source.

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1	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have approved and executed this Agreement on the	
2	dates set forth opposite their respective signatures.	
3		JAN LYNN OWEN
4		Commissioner of Business Oversight
5	Dated: <u>8/12/16</u>	By Mary Ann Smith
6		Mary Ann Smith Deputy Commissioner
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8		AMADA FRANCHISE, INC.
9	Dated: <u>8/8/16</u>	By Jared Glenn Turner
10		Jared Glenn Turner Executive Chairman
11 12		JARED GLENN TURNER,
13		Executive Chairman of Amada Franchise, Inc.
13	Dated:8/8/16	By Jared Glenn Turner
15		Jared Glenn Turner
16	APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
17	D-4-1. 0/11/16	D
18	Dated: <u>8/11/16</u>	By Danielle A. Stoumbos
19		Senior Counsel Department of Business Oversight
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21	Dated: <u>8/10/16</u>	By
22		Michael R. MacPhail, Esq. Faegre Baker Daniels LLP
23		Counsel for Amada Franchise, Inc. and Jared Glenn Turner
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25	Dated: <u>8/10/16</u>	By
26		Matthew B. Gruenberg, Esq. Barnes & Thornburg LLP
27		Counsel for Amada Franchise, Inc. and Jared Glenn Turner
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